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TRENDS IN ADMISSION VARIABLES THROUGH THE CLASS OF 1976 (U)

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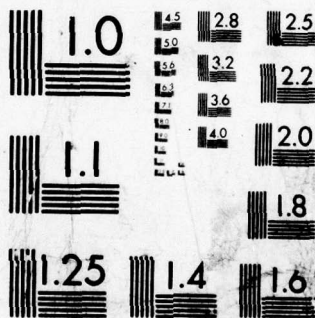
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THROUGH THE
CLASS OF 1976

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6 TRENDS IN ADMISSION VARIABLES THROUGH THE CLASS OF 1976,

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Project No. 142

Report Prepared By: 10 John W. Houston

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UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
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ABSTRACT

1. The United States Military Academy uses the Whole Man concept in the selection of candidates for admission. This concept encompasses three broad ability areas: scholastic, leadership potential, and physical condition and aptitude. The entrance scores for each of these areas are compared with previous classes. The American College Testing Program scores were used to admit 284 cadets to the Class of 1976. These scores are included, but since this is the first year they were used, there are no scores of previous classes with which to compare them.

2. The Class of 1976 compared to previous classes has a slight decrease in its academic potential. The mean Leadership Potential Score is the highest for the Class of 1976 of any Class since the Class of 1969 when the present method of calculating it was started. The mean Physical Aptitude Examination scores are slightly higher than for the Class of 1975 but identical with the Class of 1974.

3. Trend data for the Classes of 1967 to 1976 are presented. An important point in interpreting the data is that the total number of candidates increased greatly for the Classes of 1974 through 1976 compared to the Classes of 1973 and before.

4. The following abbreviations are used in this report:

CEER	College Entrance Examination Scores and High School Rank Scores statistically combined.
HSR	High School Rank Score
LPS	Leadership Potential Score
PAE	Physical Aptitude Examination
SAT-V	Scholastic Aptitude Test - Verbal
SAT-M	Scholastic Aptitude Test - Mathematics
WMS	Whole Man Score
ASR	Aptitude for the Service Rating

ACT-EN American College Test - English

ACT-MA American College Test - Mathematics

ACT-NA American College Test - Natural Science

ACEER A composite score of ACT Tests and HSR

PREFACE

This report, along with the report, Characteristics of the Class of 1976, published in August 1972, and the report, A Comparison of New Cadets at USMA with Entering Freshmen at Other Colleges, Class of 1976, to be published when data become available, comprise the general reports prepared by the Office of Institutional Research to describe the Class of 1976 at the time members of the Class entered the Academy.

The same three reports were prepared for the Classes of 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975. (For 1971 this report was called Analysis of the Characteristics of the Class of 1971, and for the Classes of 1972 and 1973 it was called Background and Predicted Success of Cadets in the Class of ---- with Comparison with Previous Classes.) Similar reports are planned on each future class when it enters the Academy.

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I. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Academic Qualifications

a. With relation to the College Entrance Examination Board scores, the Class of '76 compared to the Class of '75 in the mean scores as follows:

	<u>'76</u>	<u>'75</u>
Scholastic Aptitude Test - Verbal	554	554
Scholastic Aptitude Test - Mathematics	624	622
English Composition	545	543
Mathematics Achievement	620	614
High School Rank Score	541	553

b. The difference in scores for High School Rank score is statistically significant.*

c. Comparisons with available data aid in interpreting the level of these scores. The mean cadet score for the Class of '76 on SAT-V is higher than that of 80% of a representative sample of male secondary school seniors, and higher than 71% of those who were accepted by colleges. The mean cadet score on SAT-M was higher than that of 83% of the secondary seniors, and higher than 77% of those who were accepted by colleges.

2. Potential for Success at USMA. There are several measures which have been found to be related to academic, physical and leadership success at USMA.

a. General Potential for Academic Success. Each candidate is evaluated on his academic potential to succeed at USMA. No candidate is admitted unless there is a reasonable assurance that he will be able to graduate. The prime academic potential measure is the CEER score which, for the Class of 1973, has a correlation coefficient of .67 with end of Fourth Class academic average. The average CEER score for the Class of 1976 is 580. Using the formula derived on the Class of 1973,**

*Statistical significance referred to in this report is at the .05 level.

**Academic Average = $0.00163 (\text{CEER}) + 1.43637$; Standard Error of Estimate = 0.10.

the expected Fourth Class year academic average for a cadet in the Class of 1976 with a CEER score of 580 is 2.382.

(1) Those cadets who have low CEER scores can be expected to have more difficulty in their academic work than those cadets who have high CEER scores.

(2) Figure 1 provides a graphic comparison of the number of cadets within each CEER range, as shown in Table 1, with the number of completely examined candidates within the same ranges. Figure 2 shows a similar comparison of candidates and cadets evaluated, using ACEER scores.

b. General Potential for Physical Activities. The average Physical Aptitude Examination score of 553 is significantly different from the average of 546 made by the entering Class of 1975 but is identical with the mean of 553 made by the Class of 1974. The number of entering cadets with PAE scores below 450, as reported in Table 1, decreased from 166 last year to 147 this year. A graphic comparison of the distribution of PAE scores in the Class of 1976 with that in the candidate population from which it was drawn is provided by Figure 3.

c. Leadership Potential. The Leadership Potential Scores are derived from the ratings of the candidate by his secondary school teachers, and evaluations by Admissions Officials of his quality of participation in athletic and other school and community activities. The LPS and PAE have been the best predictors of Aptitude for the Service Rating. The mean LPS for this Class (609) is not significantly different from the mean of the Class of 1975 (608). A graphic comparison of the distribution of Leadership Potential Scores in this Class with that in the candidate population is provided in Figure 4.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>SD</u>
Candidates	2943	541.23	86.68
Cadets	1094	579.79	62.78

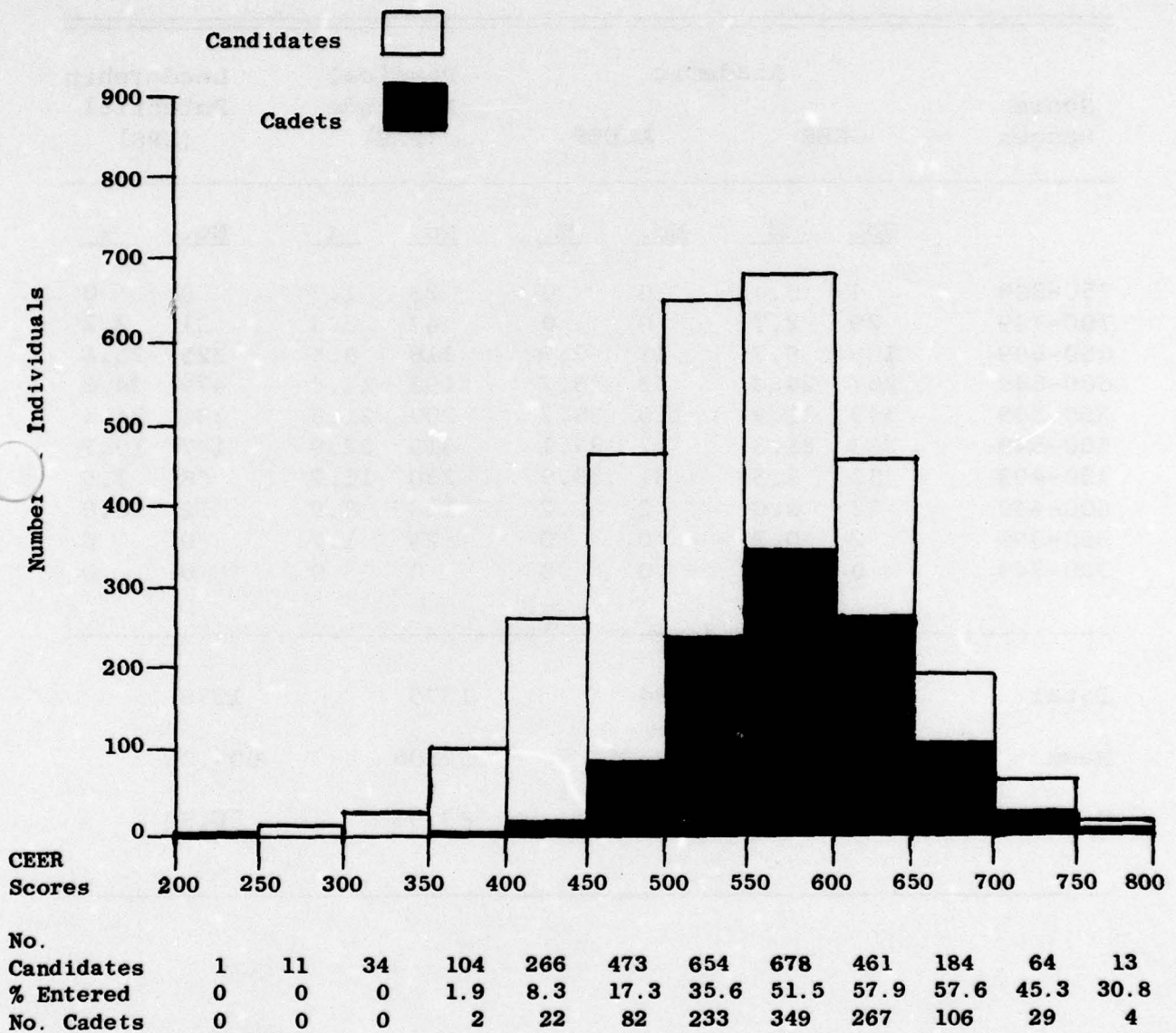


FIGURE 1. COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF CADETS (EVALUATED USING CEER) WITH THE NUMBER OF FULLY EXAMINED CANDIDATES (EVALUATED USING CEER) AT EACH CEER SCORE LEVEL FOR THE CLASS OF 1976.

TABLE 1

DISTRIBUTION OF SCORES ON WHOLE MAN SCORE COMPONENTS
FOR THE CLASS OF 1976

Score Ranges	Academic				Physical Aptitude (PAE)		Leadership Potential (LPS)	
	CEER		ACEER					
	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
750-800	4	0.4	0	0	23	1.7	0	0
700-749	29	2.7	0	0	47	3.4	31	2.2
650-699	106	9.7	11	3.9	118	8.6	325	23.6
600-649	267	24.4	53	18.7	198	14.4	479	34.8
550-599	349	31.9	110	38.7	297	21.6	336	24.4
500-549	233	21.3	77	27.1	315	22.9	147	10.7
450-499	82	7.5	31	10.9	230	16.7	48	3.5
400-449	22	2.0	2	0.7	123	8.9	12	0.9
350-399	2	0.2	0	0	24	1.7	0	0
300-349	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total	1094		284		1375		1378	
Mean	579.79		562.55		552.86		609.09	
S.D.	62.78		50.07		83.93		56.53	

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>SD</u>
Candidates	977	511.01	80.66
Cadets	284	562.55	50.07

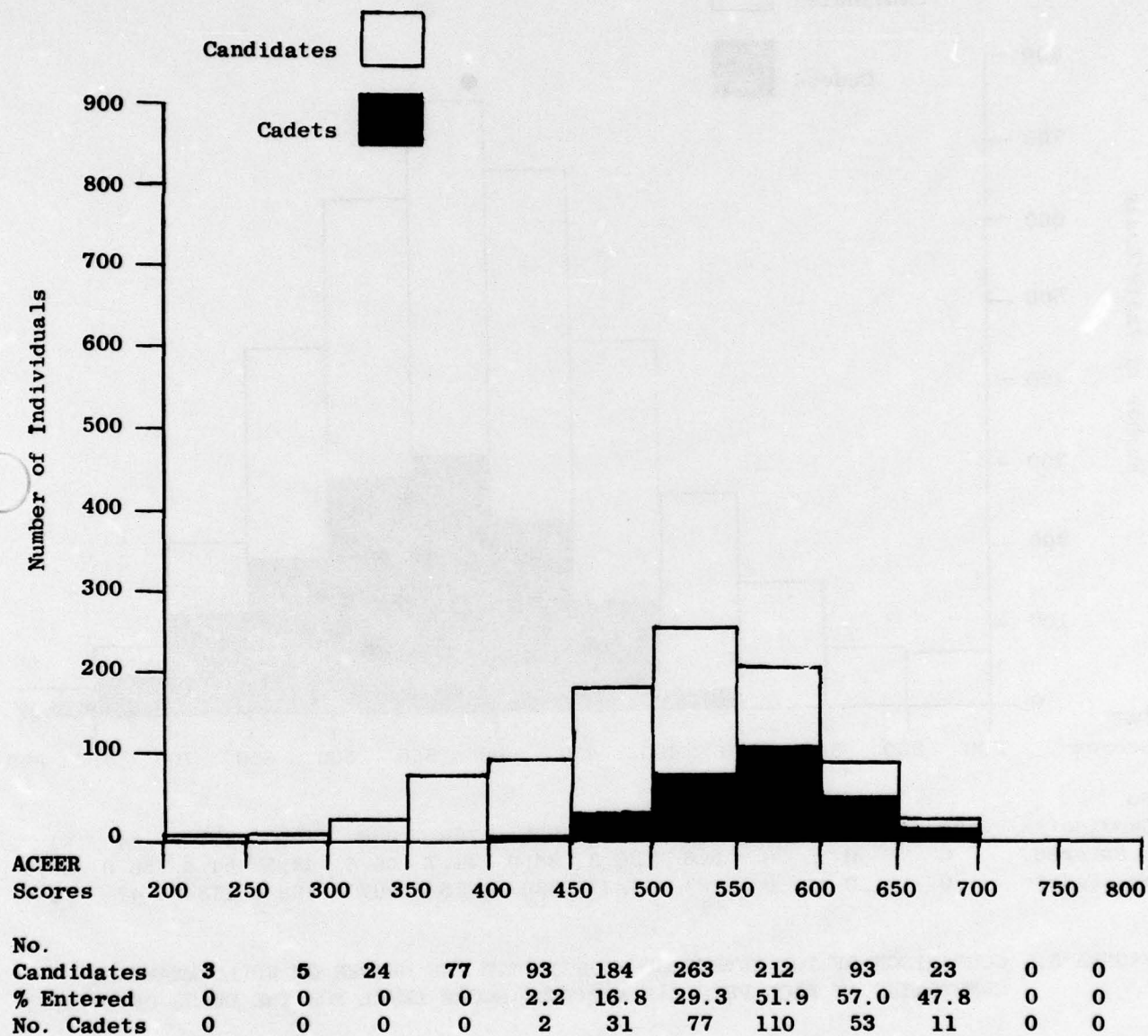
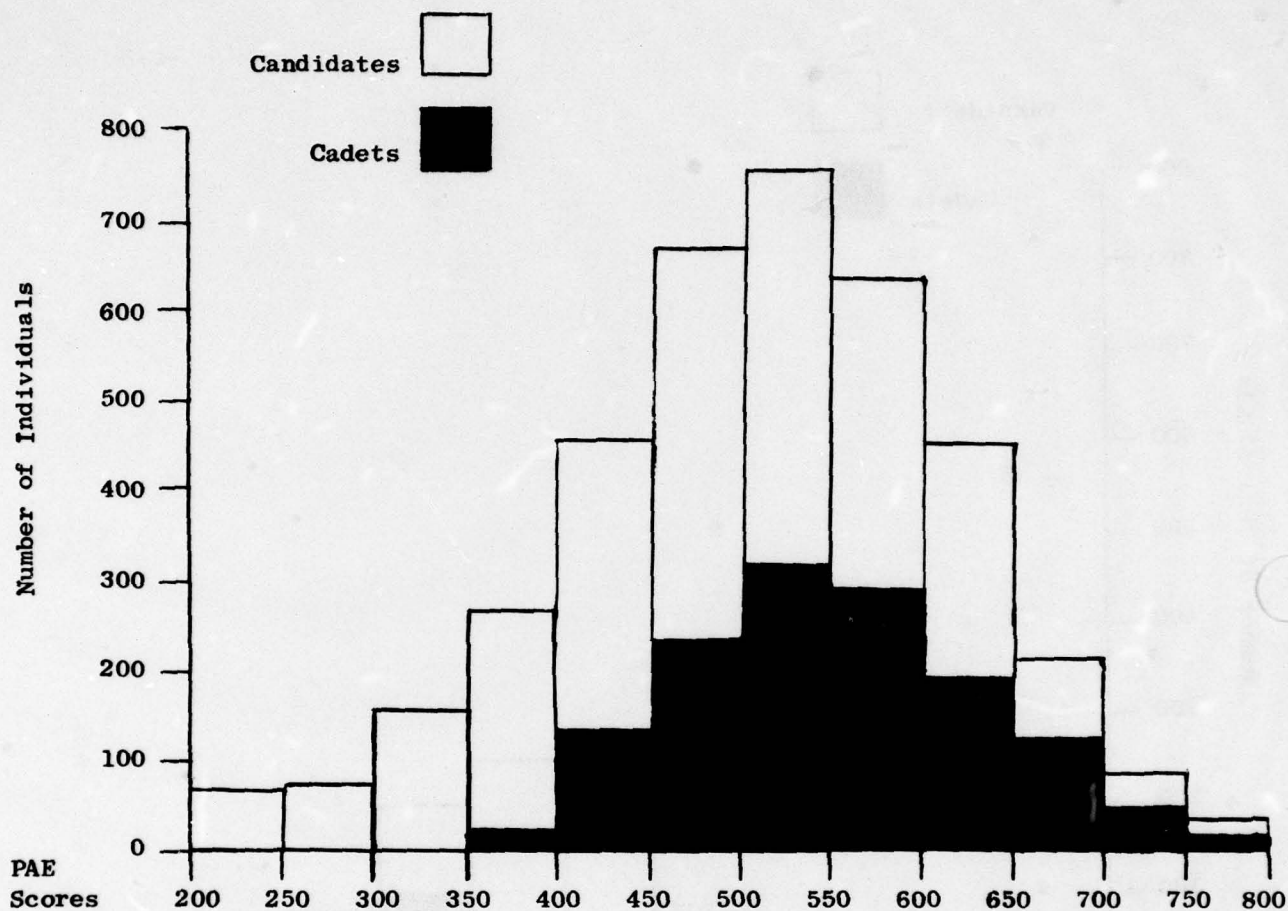


FIGURE 2. COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF CADETS (EVALUATED USING ACEER) WITH THE NUMBER OF FULLY EXAMINED CANDIDATES (EVALUATED USING ACEER) AT EACH ACEER SCORE LEVEL FOR THE CLASS OF 1976.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>SD</u>
Candidates	3924	510.08	108.34
Cadets	1375*	552.86	83.93



No.												
Candidates	70	74	156	278	467	677	756	638	466	217	84	41
% Entered	0	0	0	8.6	26.3	34.0	41.7	46.6	42.5	54.4	56.0	56.1
No. Cadets	0	0	0	24	123	230	315	297	198	118	47	23

FIGURE 3. COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF CADETS WITH THE NUMBER OF FULLY EXAMINED CANDIDATES AT EACH PHYSICAL APTITUDE SCORE LEVEL FOR THE CLASS OF 1976.

*Three cadets did not have PAE scores.

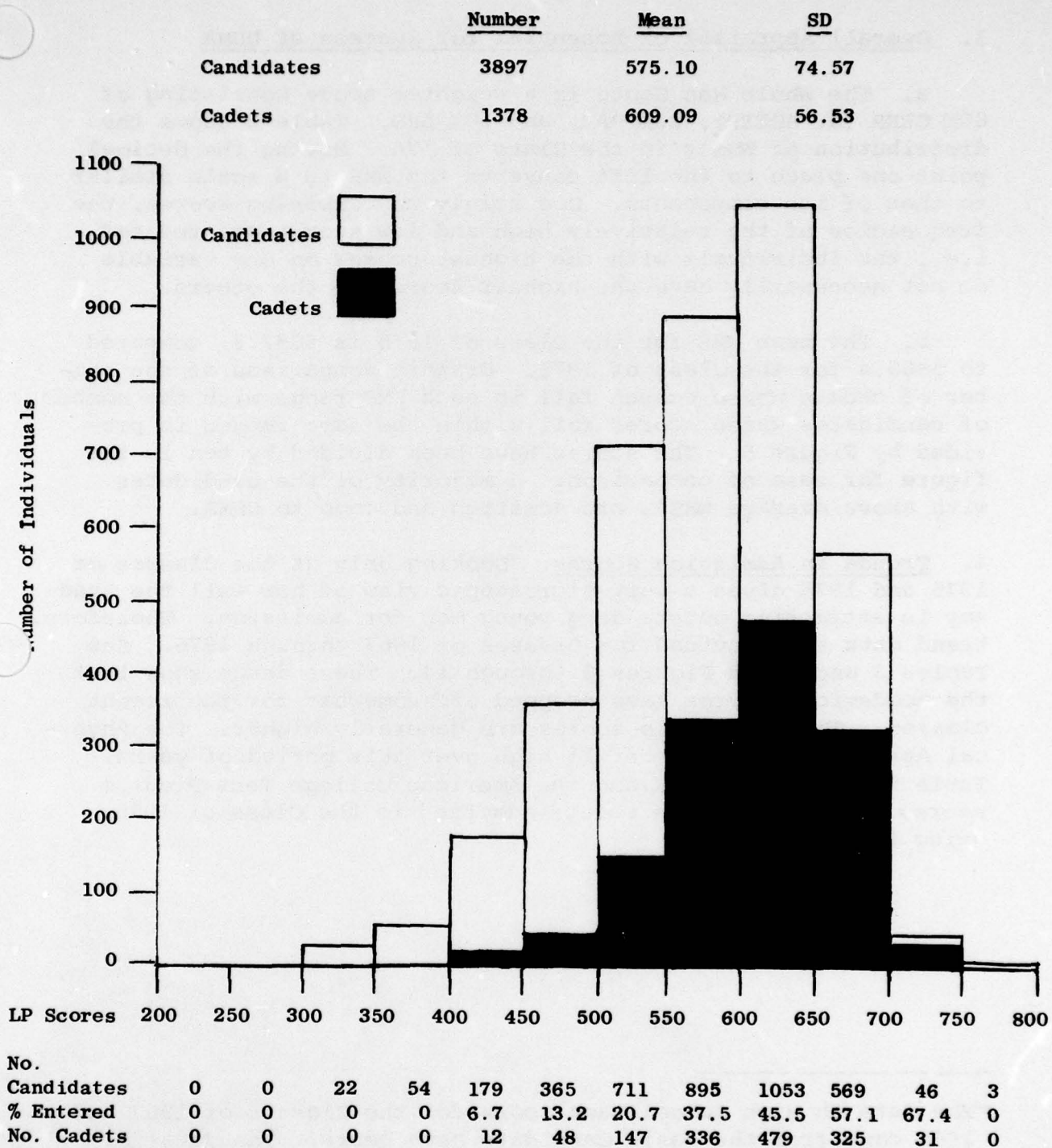


FIGURE 4. COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF CADETS WITH THE NUMBER OF FULLY EXAMINED CANDIDATES AT EACH LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL SCORE LEVEL FOR THE CLASS OF 1976.

3. Overall Appraisal of Potential for Success at USMA

a. The Whole Man Score is a weighted score consisting of 60% CEER (or ACEER), 10% PAE, and 30% LPS. Table 2 shows the distribution of WMS's in the Class of '76. Moving the decimal point one place to the left converts the WMS to a scale similar to that of its components. Due solely to combining scores, the frequencies of the relatively high and low scores are reduced; i.e., the individuals with the highest scores on one variable do not necessarily have the highest scores on the others.

b. The mean WMS for the Class of 1976 is 5837.3, compared to 5865.4 for the Class of 1975. Graphic comparison of the number of cadets whose scores fall in each WMS range with the number of candidates whose scores fall within the same ranges is provided by Figure 5. The scores have been divided by ten in the figure for ease of comparison. A majority of the candidates with above average WMS's are admitted and come to USMA.

4. Trends in Admission Scores. Looking only at the Classes of 1975 and 1976 gives a very microscopic view of how well the Academy is attracting outstanding young men for admission. Therefore, trend data are provided for Classes of 1967 through 1976. See Tables 3 and 4 and Figures 6 through 14. These data* show that the academic measures have dropped off somewhat for the recent classes. The leadership scores are generally higher. The Physical Aptitude scores are still high over this period of years. Table 5 shows the ACEER and the American College Test Program scores. There were 284 cadets admitted in the Class of 1976 using these scores.

*The data on High School Rank score for the Classes of 1967 and 1968 come from the Basic Candidate Data Decks. The data for the CEER and PAE on admitted candidates for the Classes of 1967 and 1968 come from the analysis by Spencer. The data for the remainder of the variables shown on these tables come from the Class Characteristics reports and from the Basic Candidate Data Decks.

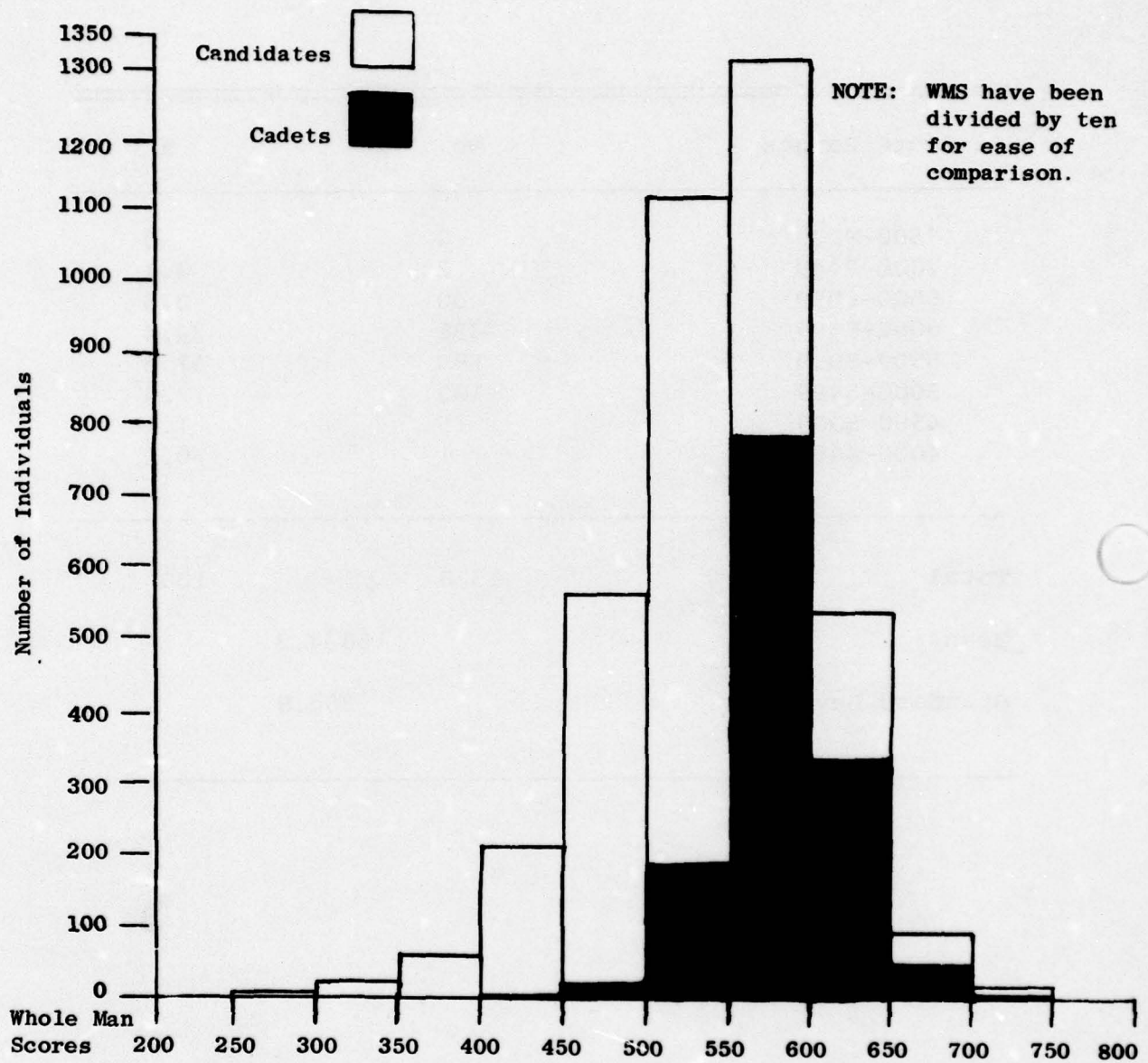
TABLE 2

DISTRIBUTION OF WHOLE MAN SCORES FOR THE CLASS OF 1976

Score Ranges	No.	%
7500-8000	0	0
7000-7449	2	0.1
6500-6999	50	3.6
6000-6499	336	24.4
5500-5999	789	57.3
5000-5499	185	13.4
4500-5000	15	1.1
4000-4499	1	0.1

Total	1378	100
Mean	5837.3	
Standard Deviation	350.8	

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>SD</u>
Candidates	3897	543.66	60.09
Cadets	1378	583.73	35.08



No.												
Candidates	0	4	14	56	207	569	1115	1308	525	87	12	0
% Entered	0	0	0	0	0.5	2.6	16.6	60.3	64.0	57.5	16.7	0
No. Cadets	0	0	0	0	1	15	185	789	336	50	2	0

FIGURE 5. COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF CADETS WITH THE NUMBER OF FULLY EXAMINED CANDIDATES AT EACH WHOLE MAN SCORE LEVEL FOR THE CLASS OF 1976.

TABLE 3

MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS FOR CEER, LPS, PAE AND WMS
FOR THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976

		CEER			LPS*			PAE			WMS*		
		N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
1967	A**	2504	549	77				2314	498	97			
	T	2042	560	74				2042	498	98			
	M	1781	563	73				1781	504	95			
	C	824	592	53				821	540	75			
1968	A	2859	555	78				2832	495	99			
	T	2042	565	75				2042	499	95			
	M	1784	567	75				1784	504	93			
	C	991	601	55				989	536	76			
1969	A	3978	555	72	4283	550	82	4156	508	99	3689	5511	581
	T	3391	561	74	3391	555	81	3391	515	94	3391	5541	572
	M	3051	563	73	3051	556	80	3051	518	93	3051	5561	567
	C	1133	602	54	1132	582	75	1133	548	76	1051	5921	405
1970	A	3333	557	74	3335	552	85	3368	502	100	3029	5529	565
	T	2818	563	72	2818	556	83	2818	508	96	2818	5554	557
	M	2638	564	71	2638	558	82	2638	511	96	2638	5566	550
	C	1017	603	54	1017	594	71	1017	550	77	1017	5953	363
1971	A	3307	559	74	3294	553	84	3276	491	102	3010	5525	573
	T	2705	565	72	2705	559	83	2705	497	100	2705	5559	566
	M	2505	566	72	2505	561	83	2505	501	99	2505	5573	559
	C	1049	598	54	1049	595	70	1049	548	74	1049	5925	365
1972	A	3386	554	76	3382	564	80	3338	519	101	3053	5553	581
	T	2657	561	73	2657	573	77	2657	532	94	2657	5620	557
	M	2514	561	73	2514	573	77	2514	533	94	2514	5618	558
	C	1239	593	54	1239	600	64	1239	561	76	1239	5919	336

*The LPS was calculated differently for Classes before 1969; therefore, these previous Classes are not shown for LPS or WMS.

**A = all candidates tested on variables; T = all candidates fully tested on CEER, LPS, PAE and WMS; M = all candidates fully tested and medically qualified; C = admitted candidates who became cadets.

TABLE 3 (Continued)

MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS FOR CEER, LPS, PAE AND WMS
FOR THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976

		CEER			LPS*			PAE			WMS*		
		N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
1973	A**	3869	542	77	3851	563	78	3966	511	106	3518	5476	580
	T	3221	548	75	3221	568	77	3221	515	101	3221	5508	596
	M	3041	548	75	3041	569	77	3041	518	100	3041	5516	569
	C	1439	582	57	1439	595	68	1427	547	81	1427	5829	369
1974	A	6519	531	83	7239	574	70	4706	512	105	6213	5427	582
	T	3858	547	78	3735	581	69	3912	514	103	3717	5551	550
	M	3147	553	76	3093	586	76	3168	524	96	3088	5606	534
	C	1373	589	60	1373	609	59	1366	553	82	1373	5912	353
1975	A	6674	520	88	8041	567	77	4477	505	107	6587	5326	623
	T	3832	538	81	3843	573	78	3892	508	105	3797	5461	596
	M	3527	540	80	3533	576	78	3568	511	103	3501	5484	589
	C	1339	582	59	1339	608	65	1336	546	81	1339	5865	356
1976***A	A	6213	518	89	6440	568	76	4323	508	110	6440	5303	636
	T	2943	541	87	3897	575	75	3924	510	108	3897	5437	601
	M	2717	542	83	3593	577	74	3614	514	107	3593	5453	597
	C	1094	580	63	1378	609	57	1375	553	84	1378	5837	351

*The LPS was calculated differently for Classes before 1969; therefore, these previous Classes are not shown for LPS or WMS.

**A = all candidates tested on variables; T = all candidates fully tested on CEER, LPS, PAE and WMS; M = all candidates fully tested and medically qualified; C = admitted candidates who became cadets.

***ACEER scores for the Class of 1976 are shown in Table 5. The "N" for CEER for fully tested candidates, fully tested and medically qualified candidates, and for admitted cadets in the Class of 1976 includes only those who were evaluated using CEER.

TABLE 4

MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS FOR SAT-V, SAT-M, ENG-C, MATH-A, AND HSR
FOR THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976

	SAT-V			SAT-M			ENG-C			MATH-A			HSR		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
1967															
A*	2622	537	95	2622	603	88	2572	517	97	2590	582	97	2879	501	119
T**	2042	544	92	2042	613	84	2042	526	94	2042	592	94	2042	518	114
M	1781	547	91	1781	617	83	1781	529	93	1781	595	93	1781	519	114
C	821	568	77	821	643	63	818	556	77	818	627	74	821	554	101
1968															
A	2986	543	94	2986	607	92	2927	523	97	2933	587	95	3263	506	119
T	2042	555	88	2042	620	86	2041	536	93	2041	600	90	2040	517	117
M	1784	557	88	1784	623	85	1783	538	91	1783	603	90	1784	519	117
C	989	580	72	989	653	62	989	567	74	989	634	71	987	559	104
1969															
A	4295	542	90	4293	606	92	4178	521	93	4192	581	98	4413	508	116
T	3391	550	85	3391	617	87	3391	529	90	3391	590	95	3391	516	114
M	3051	552	85	3051	619	85	3051	532	90	3051	592	94	3051	518	114
C	1133	578	70	1133	655	63	1133	566	77	1133	633	75	1133	563	102
1970															
A	3633	546	91	3633	606	88	3511	525	92	3526	587	95	3558	508	116
T	2818	554	87	2818	616	82	2818	532	88	2818	596	92	2818	516	114
M	2638	555	86	2638	618	81	2638	533	88	2638	598	91	2638	516	114
C	1017	581	75	1017	654	62	1017	564	77	1017	640	78	1017	561	102

*A = all candidates tested on variables; T = all candidates fully tested on CEER, LPS, PAE and WMS; M = all candidates fully tested and medically qualified; C = admitted candidates who became cadets.

**Number with CEER score may be greater than those with CEER components, as many of the candidates with HSR and Preliminary SAT scores were given an estimated CEER.

TABLE 4 (Continued)
MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS FOR SAT-V, SAT-M, ENG-C, MATH-A, AND HSR
FOR THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976

	SAT-V			SAT-M			ENG-C			MATH-A			HSR		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
1971															
A*	3684	542	93	3684	607	87	3522	527	92	3536	596	93	3490	506	114
T**	2705	553	87	2705	616	81	2705	535	87	2705	603	90	2706	514	113
M	2505	553	87	2505	617	81	2505	536	87	2505	604	89	2506	514	112
C	1049	574	74	1049	649	62	1049	562	74	1049	638	72	1049	551	101
1972															
A	3808	540	95	3808	601	89	3629	520	93	3634	587	94	3564	501	118
T	2657	552	89	2657	614	82	2657	530	88	2657	596	90	2657	509	115
M	2514	551	89	2514	614	82	2514	530	89	2514	596	91	2514	508	116
C	1239	579	73	1239	645	61	1239	559	75	1239	630	73	1239	543	105
1973															
A	4394	526	93	4394	591	92	4165	509	94	4164	574	94	4101	493	117
T	3221	536	89	3221	601	86	3221	517	90	3221	582	91	3221	501	114
M	3041	536	89	3041	602	86	3041	517	90	3041	582	91	3041	501	114
C	1439	562	77	1439	635	67	1439	546	78	1439	617	76	1439	538	102
1974															
A	6519	531	83	6339	577	95	5122	508	94	5110	578	98	7168	492	117
T	3912	533	92	3911	594	89	3909	512	94	3912	582	97	3858	505	115
M	3168	539	90	3167	601	86	3165	519	91	3168	590	95	3147	510	113
C	1373	563	80	1372	633	69	1372	549	81	1373	627	80	1373	552	104

*A = all candidates tested on variables; T = all candidates fully tested on CEER, LPS, PAE and WMS; M = all candidates fully tested and medically qualified; C = admitted candidates who became cadets.

**Number with CEER score may be greater than those with CEER components, as many of the candidates with HSR and Preliminary SAT scores were given an estimated CEER.

TABLE 4 (Continued)

MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS FOR SAT-V, SAT-M, ENG-C, MATH-A, AND HSR
FOR THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976

	SAT-V			SAT-M			ENG-C			MATH-A			HSR		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
1975															
A*	6239	506	99	6237	567	99	4930	505	93	4933	570	94	7470	483	122
T	3877	521	95	3877	581	93	3689	511	91	3703	575	92	3834	499	120
M	3554	522	94	3554	583	92	3407	511	91	3417	576	92	3529	502	119
C**	1329	554	78	1329	622	70	1329	543	80	1329	614	77	1339	553	106
1976***															
A	5539	505	99	5536	564	99	3945	505	96	3965	569	97	6512	484	120
T	2942	528	94	2942	586	93	2788	516	95	2787	581	96	2943	499	120
M	2716	529	93	2716	588	92	2592	517	95	2591	583	95	2717	499	121
C	1094	554	80	1094	624	70	1094	545	82	1094	620	79	1094	539	109

*A = all candidates tested on variables; T = all candidates fully tested on CEER, LPS, PAE and WMS; M = all candidates fully tested and medically qualified; C = admitted candidates who became cadets.

**Ten cadets in the Class of 1975 admitted through use of ACT scores rather than College Entrance Examination Board Scores.

***The "N" for these variables for fully tested candidates, fully tested and medically qualified candidates, and for admitted cadets in the Class of 1976 includes only those who were evaluated using CEER.

TABLE 5

MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS FOR ACEER, ACT-EN, ACT-MA,
ACT-NA, AND HSR FOR THE CLASS OF 1976

	ACEER			ACT-EN			ACT-MA			ACT-NA			HSR		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
1976 A*	1829	508	92	1860	20.2	4.4	1860	25.7	5.6	1859	25.6	5.6	651	484	120
T**	977	511	81	979	20.2	4.2	979	25.9	5.4	979	25.9	5.2	991	488	111
M**	893	511	80	895	20.1	4.2	895	25.9	5.3	895	25.9	5.2	897	489	112
C**	284	563	50	284	22.0	3.0	284	28.9	3.1	284	28.2	3.7	284	547	98

*A = all candidates tested on variables.

**T = all candidates fully tested and evaluated using ACEER; M = all candidates fully tested, medically qualified and evaluated using ACEER; C = admitted cadets evaluated using ACEER.

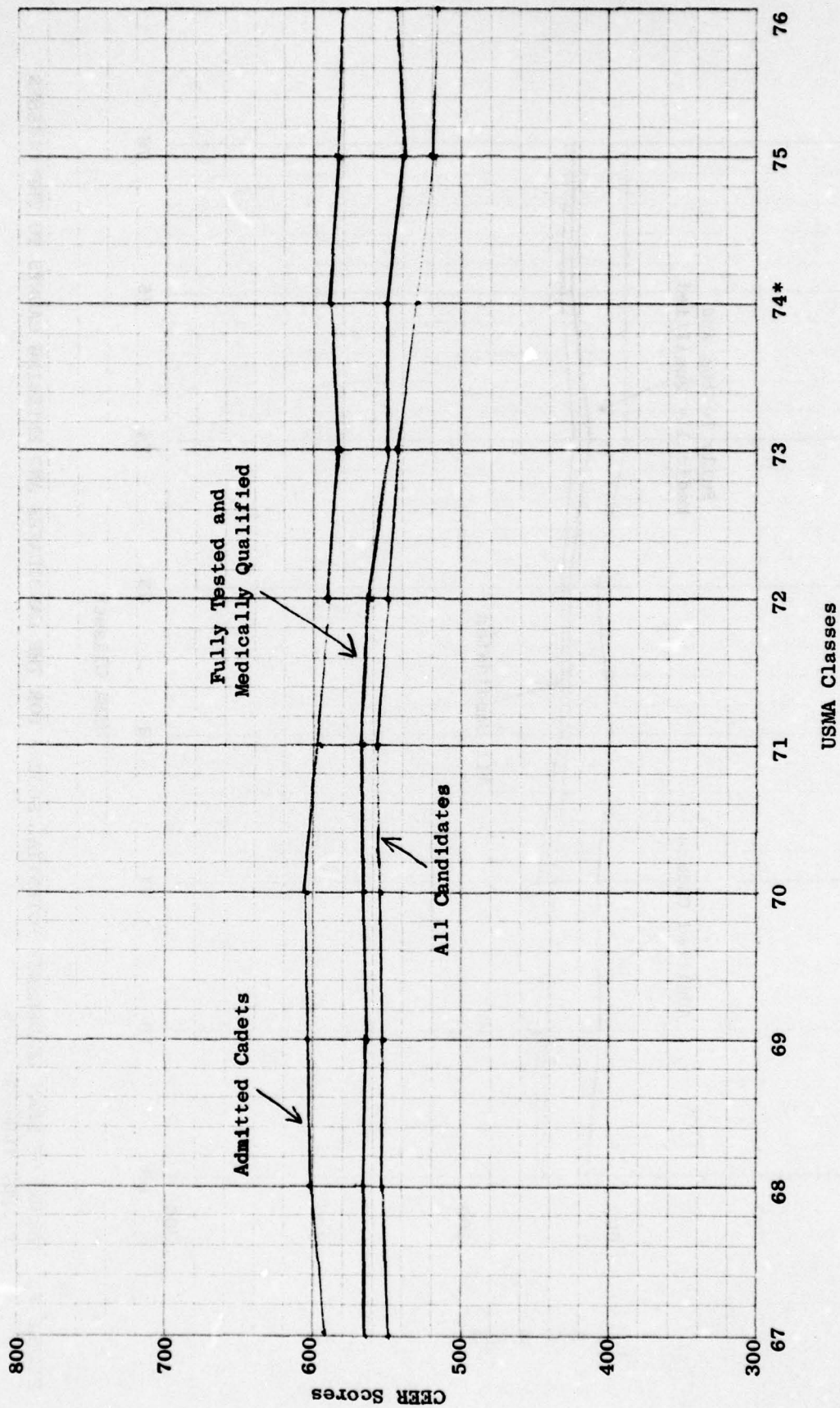


FIGURE 6. TRENDS OF MEAN CEER SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

*Approximately 80% increase in size of candidate pool in Classes of 74, 75, and 76.

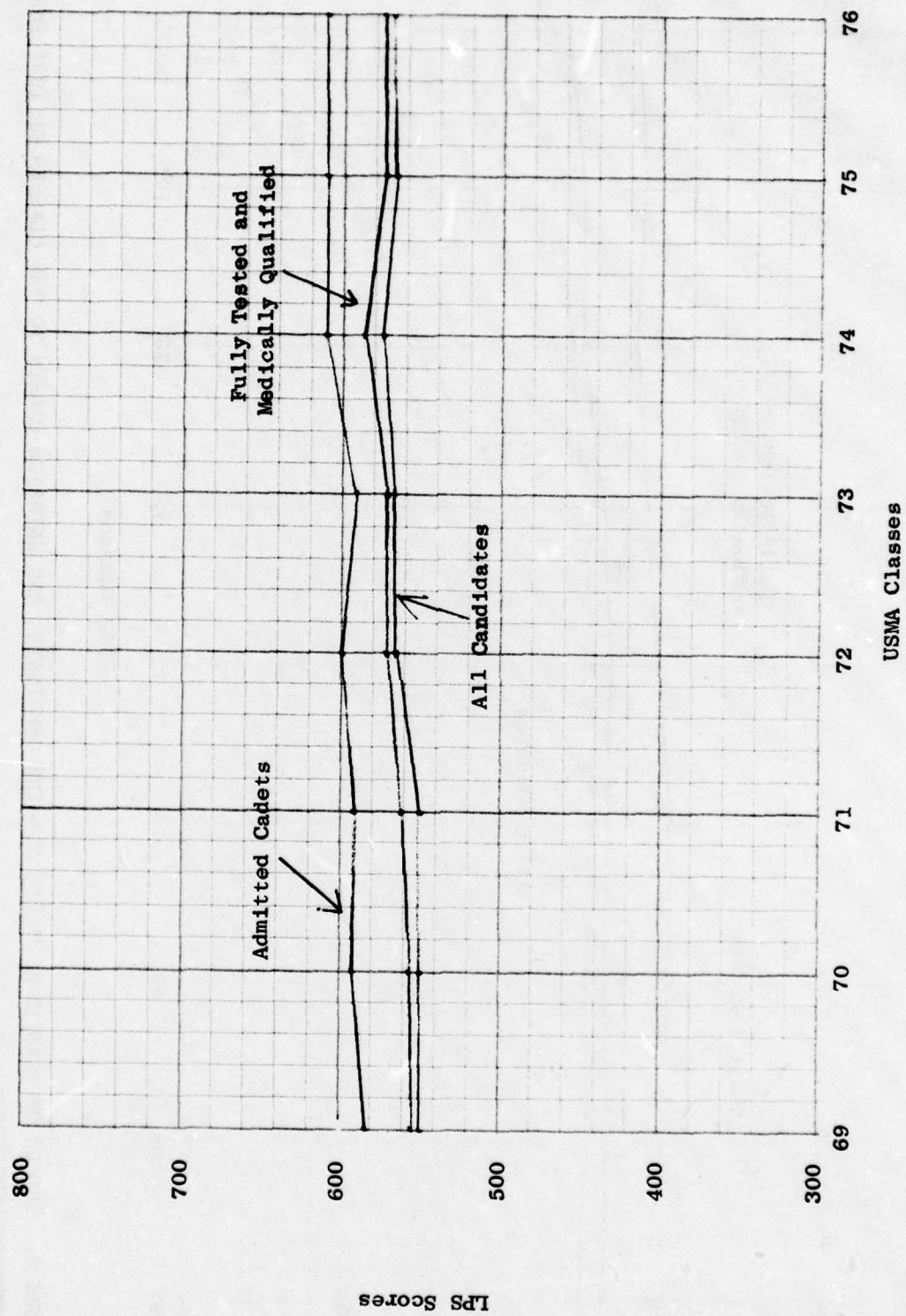


FIGURE 7. TRENDS OF MEAN LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

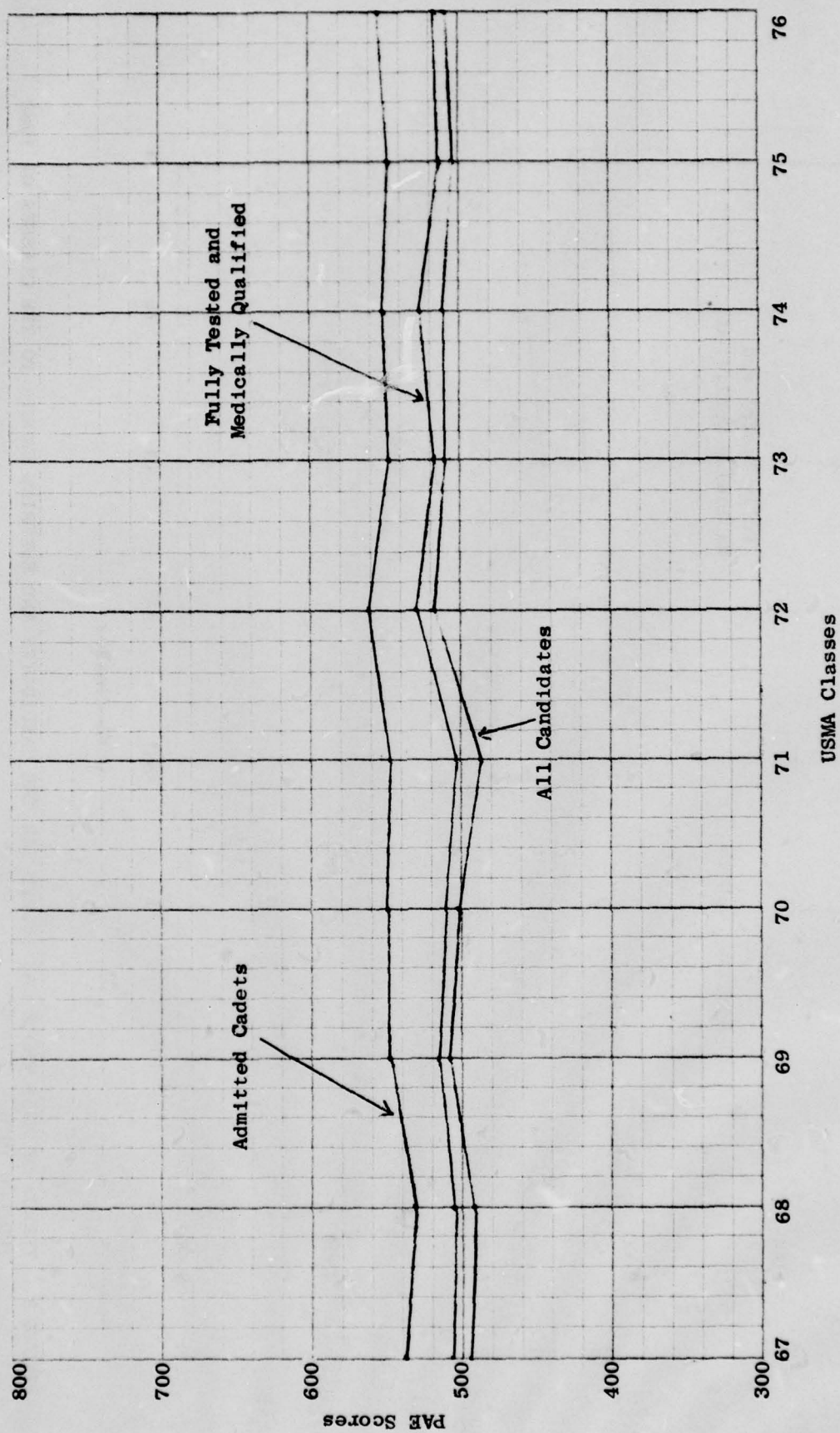


FIGURE 8. TRENDS OF MEAN PAE SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

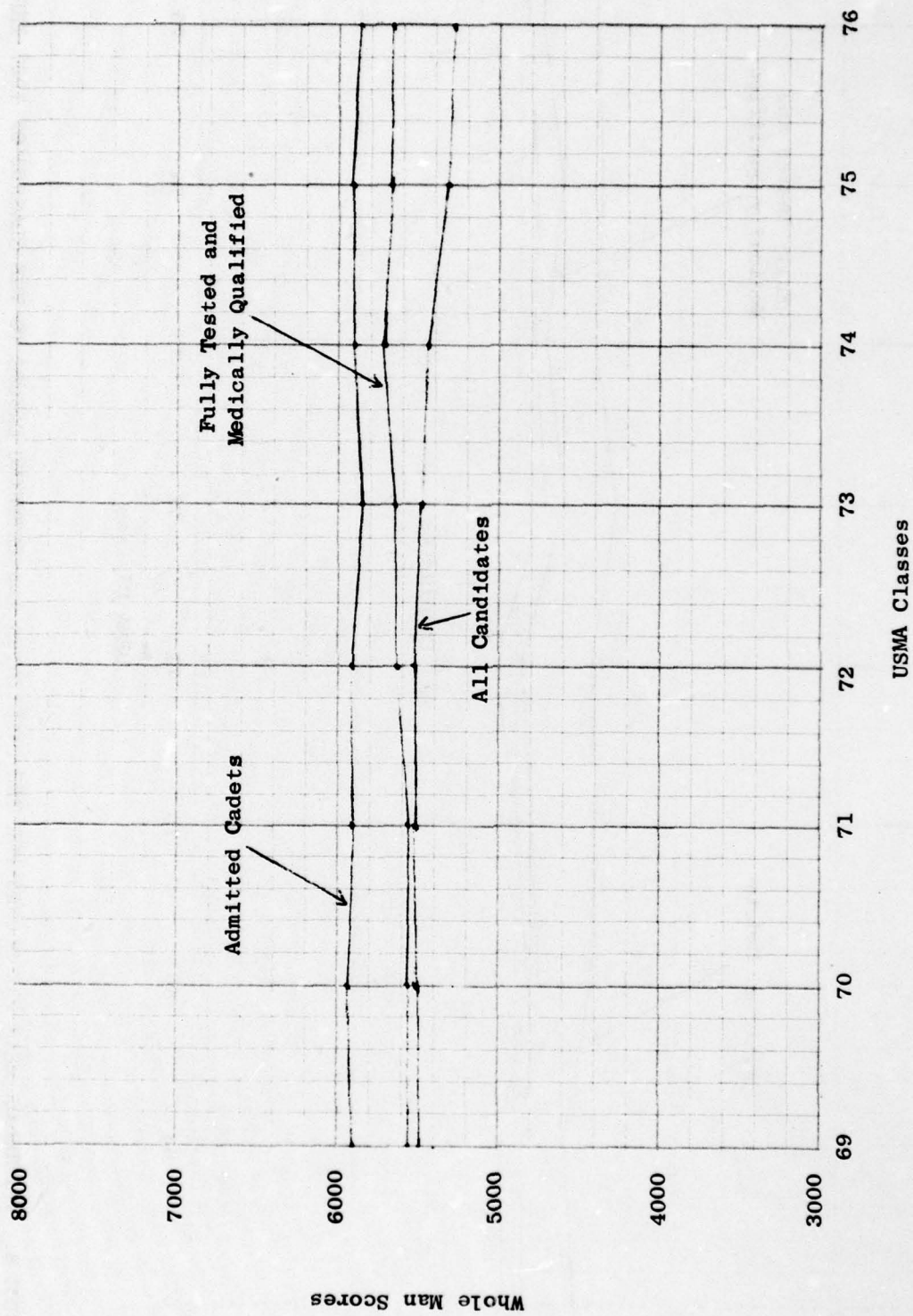


FIGURE 9. TRENDS OF MEAN WHOLE MAN SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1969 THROUGH 1976.

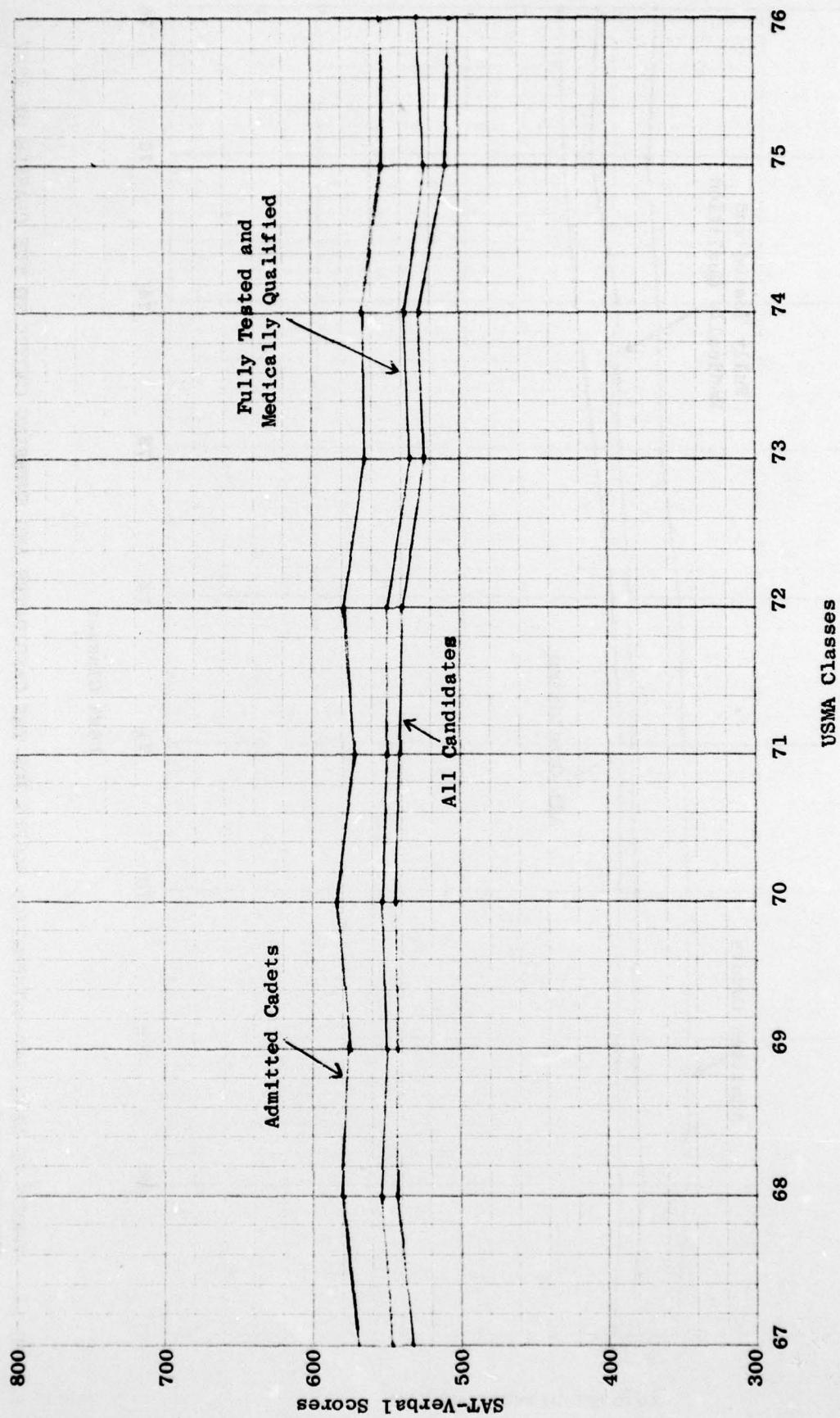


FIGURE 10. TRENDS IN MEAN SAT-VERBAL SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

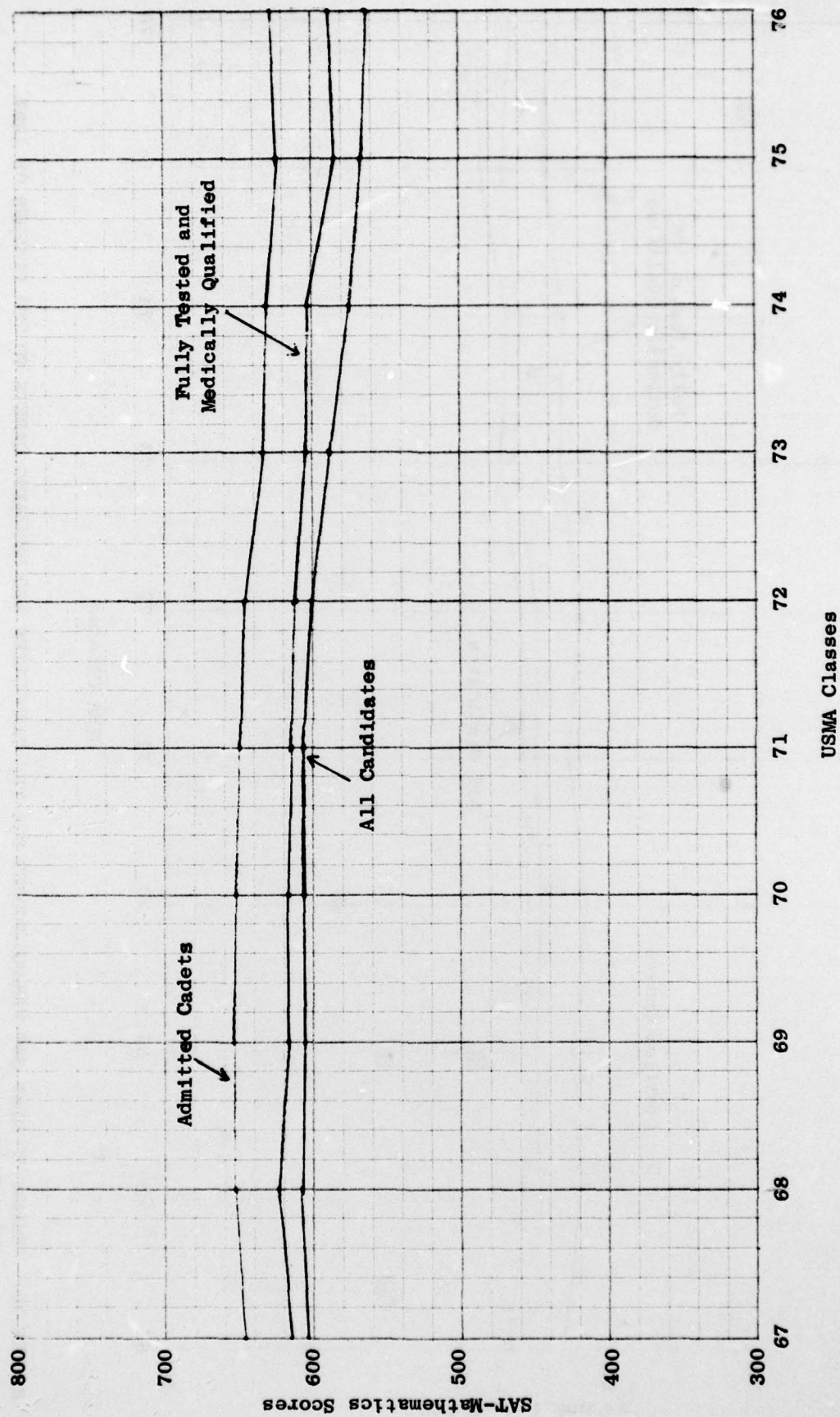


FIGURE 11. TRENDS OF MEAN SAT-MATHEMATICS SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

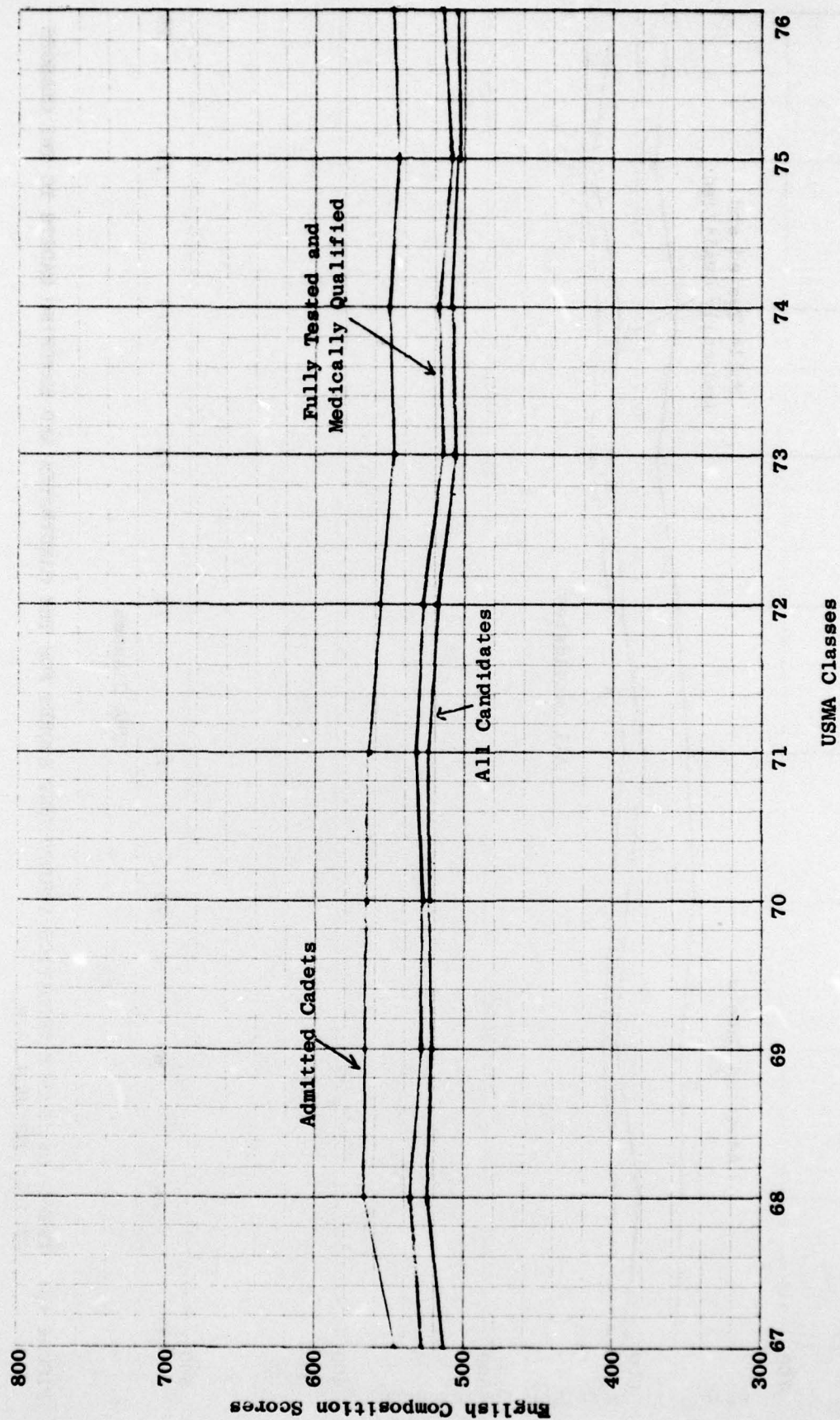


FIGURE 12. TRENDS OF MEAN ENGLISH COMPOSITION SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

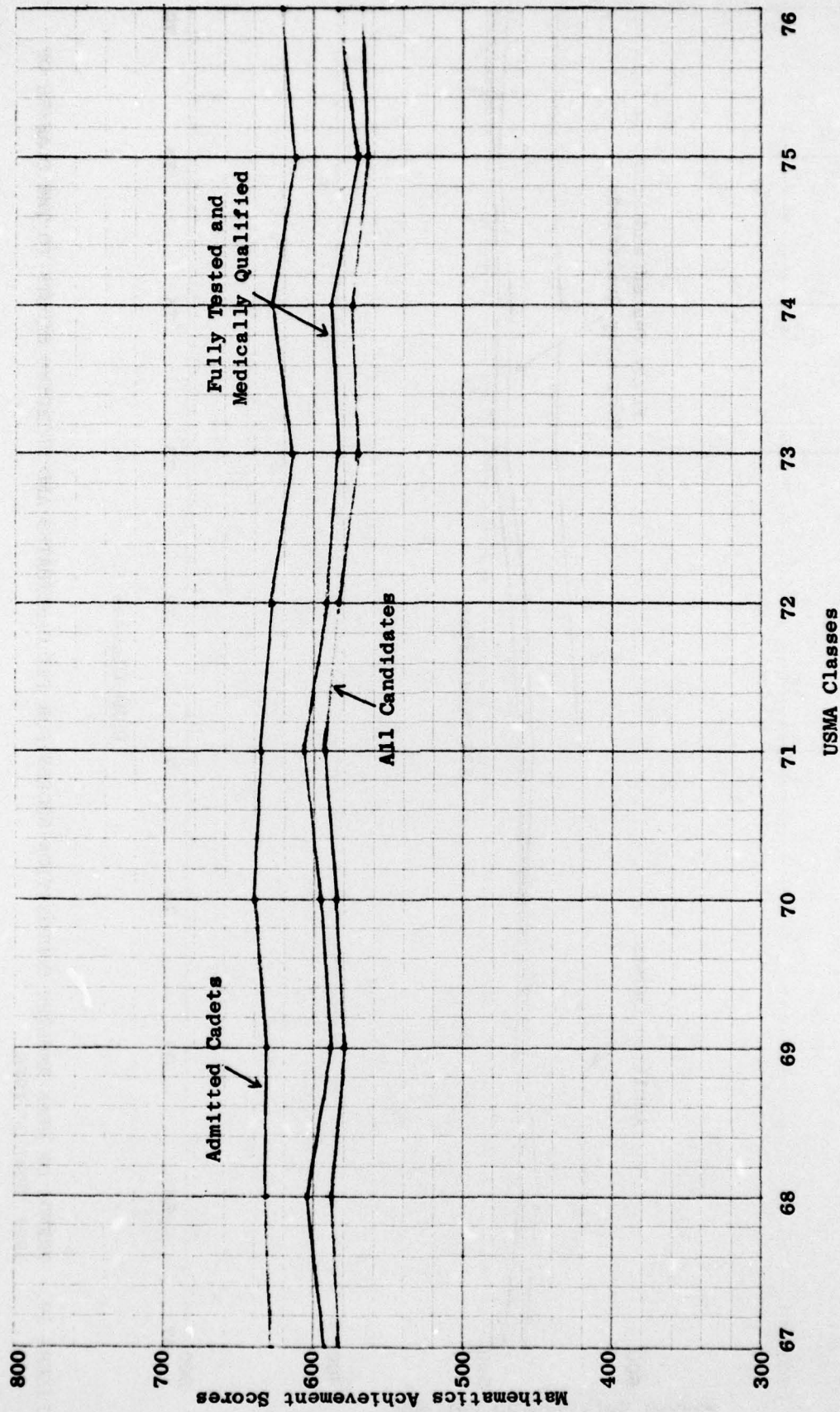


FIGURE 13. TRENDS OF MEAN MATHEMATICS ACHIEVEMENT SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

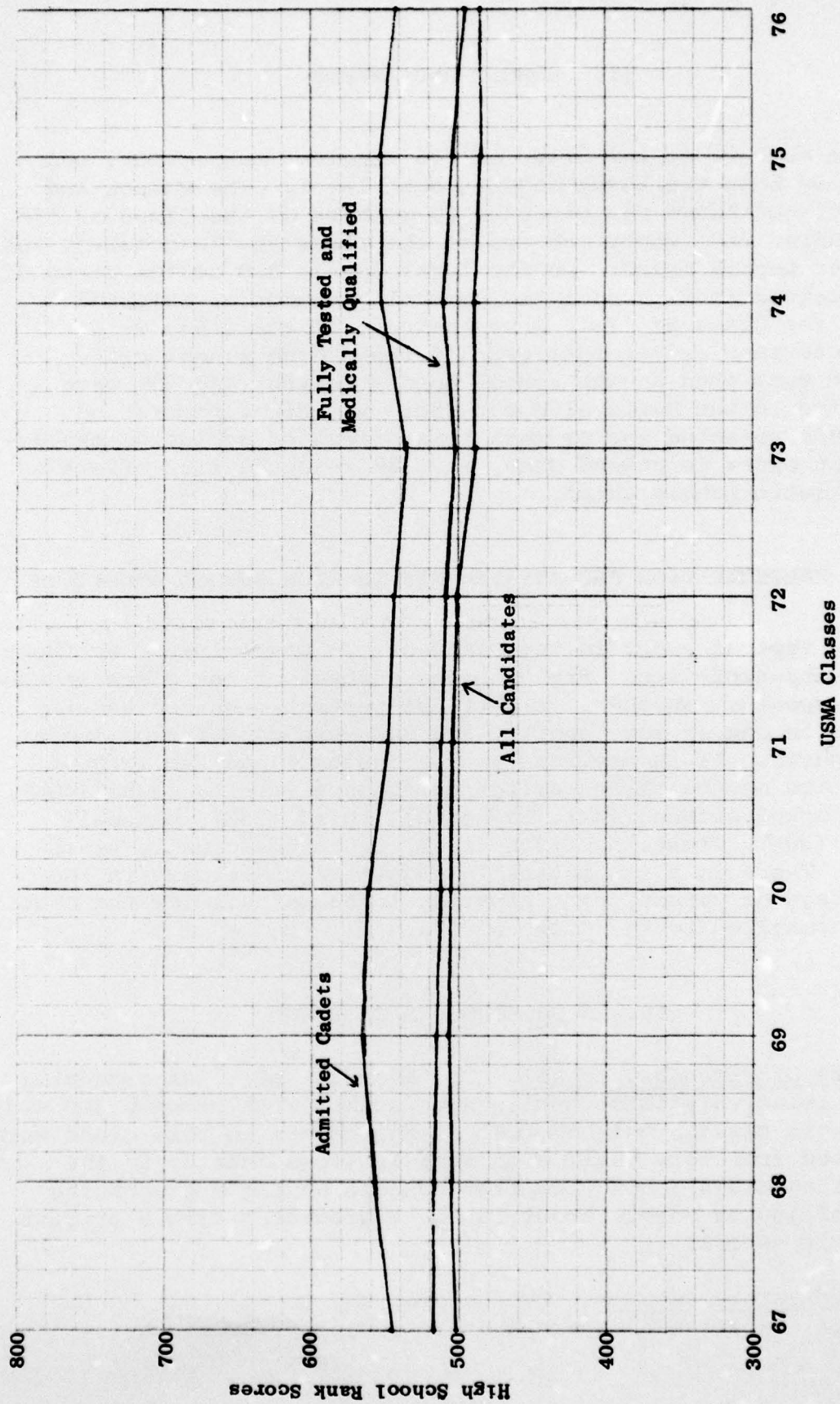


FIGURE 14. TRENDS OF MEAN HIGH SCHOOL RANK SCORES FOR THE CANDIDATES AND CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1967 THROUGH 1976.

II. HONORS AND AWARDS

5. The members of the Class of '76 received many honors and awards on both the local and national level. The Bausch and Lomb Science Award was given to 26 members of the Class of '76. One-hundred and twenty members of the Class of '76 received the American Legion Award. On the local level, 319 of the Class of '76 received local school and community awards as compared to 372 in the Class of '75. Seven percent of the class were valedictorians or salutatorians of their high school class, 44% had completed a high school honors course, and 48% were appointed to the National Honor Society. Eight percent of the class rejected one or more firm offers of athletic scholarships in order to attend USMA, and 38% rejected firm offers of non-athletic scholarships.

III. PARTICIPATION AND ATTAINMENTS IN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

6. The typical cadet in the Class of '76 participated actively in varsity athletics. Eighty-eight percent of the class engaged in one sport or another. Eighty-one percent received varsity letters in one or more sports, and 34% were captains of one or more sports. As in previous years, football had the largest proportion of the class participating on a varsity squad (48%), track ranked second (42%), basketball third (25%), baseball fourth (20%), wrestling fifth (17%), and cross-country sixth (16%). There is a statistically significant decrease in the percentage of varsity participation in basketball for the Class of '76 compared to the Class of '75.

IV. HIGH SCHOOL BACKGROUND

7. Size of Secondary School. The average cadet was graduated from a relatively large public high school with between 300 and 400 in his class. Only 5% (68) of the cadets in this class were graduated from very small high schools (less than 50 in the graduating class); 86% were from schools having a graduating class of 100 or more. About 15% were graduated from a private secondary school.

8. Preparatory Schools. Two-hundred and seven (15%) in the Class of '76 attended a preparatory school prior to their

entrance to USMA compared to 14% in the Class of '75. Seventy-five percent of those who attended a preparatory school attended the USMA Preparatory School at Fort Belvoir.

9. Attempts to Gain Admission. The typical cadet in this class gained admission on his first attempt. However, approximately 23% of the cadets answered "one or more years" to the question, "In how many years before this did you attempt to enter the United States Military Academy?"

10. Rank in Class. As in the recent past, most of the entering cadets (92%) ranked in the top two-fifths of their graduating classes. This was the same percentage as in the entering class last year.

V. NON-ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES DURING HIGH SCHOOL

11. School Clubs. Ninety-three percent of the Class of '76 actively participated in clubs sponsored by their high school, and 51% were president or vice-president of high school clubs. Seventy-five percent of the Class of '76 were involved in non-school clubs, and 36% held the position of president or vice-president. Being a member or officer of either type of club has not been found to be significantly related to Aptitude for the Service Ratings, academic performance or retention at USMA.

12. School Officers. The proportion of the Class of '76 who were presidents of their senior class--55 (4.0%), High School Student Council Presidents--77 (5.6%), Senior Class Officers, other than president--110 (8.0%), and presidents of their Student Body--60 (4.4%), is not significantly different than that of the Class of '75. Past experience has indicated that being a school officer has a significant positive correlation at USMA with Aptitude for the Service Ratings, a low negative relationship to academic performance, and a positive correlation with retention.

13. Boys' State and Boys' Nation. Two-hundred and seventy members of the Class of '76 participated in the Boys' State program, compared to 261 in the Class of '75. The difference between the Classes of '76 and '75 is not statistically significant.

14. Scouts. Fifty-five percent of the Class of '76 reported to have been associated with the scouting program as compared

to 56% of the Class of '75. Fifteen percent of the Class of '76 reported to have obtained the rank of Eagle Scout, the same as for the Class of '75. The difference in the number of cadets who participated in scouting is not statistically significant.

VI. MILITARY EXPERIENCE OR SERVICE

15. Ninety-six were on regular component status prior to their arrival at USMA, and 69 were of reserve component status; 64 of those with military training received the Marksmanship Badge and five the Parachutist Wings. Most of these cadets attended the US Military Academy Preparatory School. Research has shown a much higher percentage loss from those cadets who were in the Service and then came to USMA by way of the USMA Preparatory School than those cadets who had joined the Service for the expressed purpose of going to the USMA Preparatory School and then coming to USMA.

VII. PARENTS' MILITARY BACKGROUND

16. Approximately 27% of the cadets in this class have fathers who are or have been military career men. Another 55% of the fathers have had some active military service; only 18% of the cadets indicated that their fathers had no military service. The fathers of 59 members of the Class of 1976 were graduates of USMA.

VIII. COLLEGE BACKGROUND

17. Fourteen percent of the Class of 1976 (194) reported attendance at an institution offering a program of college level studies after their graduation from high school. The reports of these cadets indicated that 41 (21%) had attended college for six months or less, and 153 (79%) attended more than six months. The percentage of students who attended an institution of college level for the Class of 1976 is approximately the same as for the Class of 1975.

IX. TRENDS ON SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

18. Trends. In order to give a better view of how the cadet population has changed over the past nine classes, Tables 6 and

7 were prepared. The figures are rather self-explanatory.

X. SUMMARY

Over the ten year period from the entrance of the Class of '67 to the Class of '76 admission variables for the admitted classes have shown the following trends.

a. CEER scores showed an increase from the Class of '67 to '70, a gradual decrease to the Class of '73, and a fairly stable level since.

b. SAT-Verbal, SAT-Math, English Composition, and Math Achievement scores showed a similar pattern, with the Class of '75 having the lowest scores of the ten year period and the Class of '76 slightly higher.

c. The Whole Man Scores for the Class of '76 are higher than the Class of '73 but lower than all other years since the present method of scoring the LPS was started with the Class of '69. The PAE has shown a fairly stable pattern, with the Class of '76 higher than all classes of the past ten years, except '72 and '74. It is equal to that of the Class of '74 and within eight points of the Class of '72.

d. The Leadership Potential Score is equal to that of the Class of '74, which was the highest since the present method of scoring was started with the Class of '69.

e. The High School Rank score shows an increase in the Classes of '67 through '69, a gradual decrease to the Class of '73, and has fluctuated since.

TABLE 6

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ENTERING CADETS
TO THE CLASSES OF 1968 THROUGH 1976

	CLASS								
	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Cadets with 1 or More Semesters College	191(19.3%)	196(17.3%)	193(19.0%)	246(23.3%)	241(19.4%)	184(12.8%)	154(11.3%)	191(14.3%)*	194(14.1%)*
Sons of Alumni of USMA	44(4.5%)	53(4.7%)	68(6.7%)	55(5.2%)	67(5.4%)	67(4.7%)	71(5.2%)	66(4.9%)	59(4.3%)
Attended USMA Preparatory School	46(4.7%)	62(5.5%)	96(9.4%)	118(11.2%)	125(10.0%)	130(9.0%)	188(13.7%)	147(11.0%)	156(11.3%)
Attended Oth.r Preparatory School	61(5.1%)	57(5.0%)	57(5.7%)	59(5.6%)	71(5.8%)	70(4.9%)	101(7.3%)	41(3.0%)	51(3.7%)
Attended Public High School	810(81.9%)	992(81.5%)	849(83.5%)	876(83.1%)	1023(82.2%)	1212(84.3%)	1171(85.3%)	1122(83.8%)	1171(85.0%)
Attended Private High School	179(18.1%)	211(18.5%)	168(16.5%)	178(16.9%)	221(17.8%)	226(15.7%)	202(14.7%)	215(16.1%)	206(15.0%)
Rank in High School Class									
Top Fifth	769(77.8%)	889(78.5%)	809(79.5%)	806(76.5%)	938(75.4%)	1066(74.1%)	1037(76.9%)	947(70.7%)	966(70.1%)
Second Fifth	168(17.0%)	177(15.6%)	144(14.2%)	164(15.5%)	235(18.9%)	264(18.4%)	229(16.7%)	280(20.9%)	297(21.6%)
Third Fifth	47(4.7%)	60(5.3%)	54(5.3%)	75(7.1%)	63(5.1%)	92(6.4%)	75(5.5%)	96(7.2%)	98(7.1%)
Fourth Fifth	4(0.4%)	4(0.4%)	9(0.9%)	6(0.6%)	7(0.6%)	12(0.8%)	8(0.6%)	10(0.8%)	14(1.0%)
Bottom Fifth	1(0.1%)	2(0.2%)	1(0.1%)	3(0.3%)	1(0.1%)	4(0.3%)	3(0.2%)	4(0.3%)	2(0.2%)
Valedictorians	61(6.2%)	67(5.9%)	55(5.4%)	59(5.6%)	62(5.0%)	53(3.7%)	56(4.1%)	68(5.1%)	65(4.7%)
Salutatorians	55(5.6%)	35(3.1%)	41(4.0%)	40(3.8%)	35(2.8%)	56(3.9%)	57(4.2%)	40(3.0%)	32(2.3%)
N =	989	1132	1017	1054	1244	1438	1373	1339	1378

*In 1975 and 1976 indicates one or more months of college.

TABLE 7
SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS OF THE ENTERING CADETS TO THE CLASSES OF 1968 THROUGH 1976

	CLASS									
	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	
Senior Class President	76 (7.7%)	89 (7.9%)	83 (8.2%)	110 (10.4%)	88 (7.1%)	84 (5.8%)	64 (4.7%)	69 (5.2%)	55 (4.0%)	
Senior Class Officer	120 (12.1%)	127 (11.2%)	117 (11.5%)	114 (10.8%)	105 (8.4%)	137 (9.5%)	175 (12.8%)	117 (8.7%)	110 (8.0%)	
Student Body President	67 (6.8%)	77 (6.8%)	63 (6.2%)	105 (10.0%)	55 (4.4%)	75 (5.2%)	102 (7.4%)	57 (4.3%)	60 (4.4%)	
School Club President	327 (33.1%)	363 (32.0%)	381 (37.5%)	429 (40.7%)	287 (23.1%)	439 (30.5%)	435 (31.7%)	600 (44.8%)*	701 (50.9%)*	
Debate Team	112 (11.4%)	156 (13.8%)	155 (15.2%)	166 (15.7%)	162 (13.0%)	173 (12.0%)	180 (11.7%)	144 (10.8%)	111 (8.1%)	
Varsity Lettermen	733 (74.1%)	863 (76.2%)	667 (65.8%)	698 (66.3%)	956 (76.8%)	1068 (74.3%)	1070 (77.9%)	1029 (76.9%)	1112 (80.7%)	
Team Captains**	306 (30.9%)	377 (33.3%)	526 (51.7%)	558 (52.9%)	423 (34.0%)	480 (33.4%)	466 (33.9%)	416 (31.1%)	466 (33.8%)	
All Conference	212 (21.4%)	276 (24.4%)	156 (15.4%)	165 (15.7%)	314 (25.2%)	391 (27.3%)	325 (23.7%)	363 (27.1%)	473 (34.3%)	
Boy Scouts, All	623 (63.0%)	671 (59.2%)	666 (65.5%)	654 (62.0%)	695 (55.9%)	829 (57.6%)	776 (56.5%)	748 (55.9%)	757 (54.9%)	
Boy Scouts, Eagle	124 (12.5%)	150 (13.2%)	157 (15.4%)	208 (19.7%)	168 (13.5%)	184 (12.8%)	176 (12.8%)	205 (15.3%)	204 (14.8%)	
Boys State Representative	213 (21.5%)	299 (26.4%)	222 (21.5%)	328 (31.1%)	265 (21.3%)	331 (23.0%)	373 (27.2%)	261 (19.5%)	270 (19.6%)	
High School Dramatic Club	121 (12.2%)	156 (13.8%)	163 (16.0%)	159 (15.1%)	181 (14.5%)	187 (13.0%)	193 (14.1%)	189 (14.1%)	169 (12.3%)	
Bausch & Lomb Science Award	47 (4.8%)	43 (3.8%)	18 (1.8%)	37 (3.5%)	26 (2.1%)	26 (1.8%)	20 (1.5%)	29 (2.2%)	26 (1.9%)	
American Legion Award	113 (11.4%)	90 (7.9%)	101 (9.9%)	94 (8.9%)	90 (7.2%)	104 (7.2%)	128 (9.3%)	108 (8.1%)	120 (8.7%)	
Cadets with Prior Service***	68 (6.9%)	100 (8.9%)	121 (11.9%)	142 (13.5%)	161 (13.0%)	134 (9.3%)	193 (14.1%)	163 (12.2%)	165 (12.0%)	

*President or Vice President.

**Listed more than once if Captain in more than one sport for Classes of 1970 & 1971.

***Mostly USMA Preparatory School.

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